



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 1088**

January Session, 2005

\* SB01088PH 042605 \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING FIRE SPRINKLERS IN NURSING HOMES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (f) of section 29-315 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
3 *passage*):

4 (f) (1) Not later than [July 1, 2005] July 31, 2007, each chronic and  
5 convalescent nursing home or rest home with nursing supervision  
6 licensed pursuant to chapter 368v shall have [an] a complete automatic  
7 fire extinguishing system approved by the State Fire Marshal [on each  
8 floor] installed throughout such nursing or rest home. Not later than  
9 July 1, 2004, the owner or authorized agent of each such home shall  
10 submit plans for the installation of such system, signed and sealed by a  
11 licensed professional engineer, to the local fire marshal and building  
12 official within whose jurisdiction such home is located or to the State  
13 Fire Marshal, as the case may be, and shall apply for a building permit  
14 for the installation of such system. The owner or authorized agent shall  
15 notify the Commissioner of Public Health of such submission.

16 (2) On or before July 1, 2005, and quarterly thereafter, each chronic  
17 and convalescent nursing home or rest home with nursing supervision  
18 licensed pursuant to chapter 368v shall submit a report to the local fire  
19 marshal describing progress in installing the automatic fire  
20 extinguishing systems required under subsection (a) of this section. In

21 preparing such report each such nursing home or rest home shall  
22 conduct a facility risk analysis. Such analysis shall include, but not be  
23 limited to, an analysis of the following factors: Type of construction,  
24 number of stories and residents, safeguards in the facility, types of  
25 patients, travel distance to exits and arrangement of means of egress.  
26 After review of the report, the local fire marshal may require the  
27 nursing home or rest home to implement alternative fire safety  
28 measures to reduce the level of risk to occupants before installation of  
29 automatic fire sprinklers is completed.

30       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On or before July 1, 2005, each  
31 chronic and convalescent nursing home or rest home with nursing  
32 supervision licensed pursuant to chapter 368v of the general statutes  
33 shall submit a plan for employee fire safety training and education to  
34 the Commissioners of Public Health and Public Safety. The  
35 commissioners shall review each such plan and may make  
36 recommendations they deem necessary. Once approved or revised,  
37 such plan shall not be required to be resubmitted until further revised  
38 or there is a change of ownership of the nursing or rest home.

39       Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) (a) The Connecticut Health and  
40 Educational Facilities Authority shall develop a loan program for the  
41 purpose of providing financial assistance to owners of chronic and  
42 convalescent nursing homes or rest homes with nursing supervision  
43 licensed pursuant to chapter 368v of the general statutes for costs  
44 incurred in installing automatic fire extinguishing systems, including  
45 smoke detectors and warning equipment, approved by the State Fire  
46 Marshal and required by subsection (f) of section 29-315, as amended  
47 by this act.

48       (b) There is established, within the Connecticut Health and  
49 Educational Facilities Authority, a revolving loan account for the  
50 purpose of the loan program authorized by this section. The revolving  
51 loan account shall contain any moneys provided or required by law to  
52 be deposited in the account. The authority may accept contributions  
53 from any source, public or private, for deposit in the account for

54 purposes of the loan program.

55 (c) Loans made pursuant to this section shall have such terms and  
56 conditions, and shall be subject to such eligibility, loan approval, credit  
57 and other underwriting requirements and criteria as are determined by  
58 the authority to be reasonable in light of the objectives of the loan  
59 program.

60 (d) On or before October 1, 2006, and annually thereafter so long as  
61 the loan program remains active, the authority shall submit to the joint  
62 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
63 matters relating to public health, public safety and security and  
64 housing a report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general  
65 statutes, setting forth the following information: (1) A list of the loans  
66 made under the program and a general description of the terms and  
67 conditions of such loans and the repayment history; (2) an assessment  
68 of the impact of such loans on compliance with the requirements of  
69 section 1 of this act; (3) the need for additional funding for the loan  
70 program authorized by this section; and (4) such other information as  
71 the authority deems relevant to evaluating the success of the loan  
72 program in meeting its objectives.

73 (e) In connection with the making and administration of loans  
74 pursuant to this section, the authority shall have and may exercise  
75 such powers as are necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes  
76 of this section, including the same powers expressly granted to the  
77 authority in section 10a-180 of the general statutes with respect to  
78 other loans.

79 (f) No loan may be made pursuant to this section after June 30, 2008,  
80 and any moneys then remaining in, or thereafter received to the credit  
81 of, the account established in subsection (b) of this section may be  
82 withdrawn by the authority from such account and used for other  
83 purposes of the authority, subject to specific restrictions governing any  
84 contribution to such account pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

85 (g) The authority shall adopt written procedures, in accordance with

86 section 1-121 of the general statutes, to carry out the provisions of this  
87 section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	29-315(f)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section

**HSG**      *Joint Favorable C/R*      PD

**PD**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**PH**      *Joint Favorable*